

ATTACHMENT B – Scoring and Weighting Sheet

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Points Available</b>	<b>Y/N</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Reference Sheet Lookup</b>
Financial Capability	N/A		N/A	A
Financial Capability - Points	10			
Legal Capability	N/A		N/A	B
Legal Capability - Points	10			
Technical Capability	N/A		N/A	C
FCC Form 477	0-10			
Website Offerings	0-10			
Rate Comparability	0-10			D
Speed Additive	0-10			E
Match Source	0-10			F
Match Percentage	0-30			G
ETC Certification	0-5			H
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>		0	

## Reference Sheet – Scoring Criteria

### A – Financial Capability – (Yes/No), and up to 10 points

- In order to be considered for grant support, non-ETC applicants must submit audited financial statements that demonstrate overall financial viability. ETC and carriers certificated in Nebraska already do this on an annual basis. This item will be scored as a Yes/No, where the lack of required financial information demonstrating financial capability (No) would disqualify the applicant from receiving a grant.
- Long-term viability of the project is a priority, and up to 10 scoring points will be available if a business plan is included that provides details about how the proposed network will be maintained over the expected useful life of the facilities.

### B – Legal Capability – (Yes/No), and up to 10 points

- Applicants are required to include contact information for their legal representation. Omission of this information will disqualify the applicant from grant consideration.
- If this information is included, applicant will be awarded up to 10 points, but deductions will be made if: applicant/carrier partner has late filed annual reports (2 points), applicant/carrier partner has late-filed NUSF remittances (2 points), applicant fails to identify legal challenges that are anticipated, such as local zoning, permitting, access to rights-of-way, etc. (2 points).

### C – Technical Capability – (Yes/No), and up to 20 points

- Applicants are required to include information with their application that demonstrates their technical ability to deploy and operate broadband Internet service at speeds of at least 100/100 Mbps. This item will be scored as a Yes/No, where the lack of required information demonstrating technical capability (No) would disqualify the applicant from receiving a grant.
- FCC Form 477 – Does the most recent publicly-available FCC Form 477 data demonstrate that the applicant offers 100/100 Mbps (or greater) service in Nebraska? If Yes, 10 points will be awarded. If no, 0 points will be awarded.
- Website Offerings – Does the applicant’s (or carrier partner’s) public-facing website clearly state that they offer services that meet the 100/100 Mbps or greater speed minimum? If yes, 10 points will be awarded. If no, 0 points will be awarded.

### D – Rate Comparability – 10 points available

- Are the rates planned to be offered by the applicant/carrier partner comparable (i.e. equivalent) to what they offer elsewhere in Nebraska? If yes, 10 points will be awarded. If no, 0 points will be awarded.
- Plans with usage caps, early termination fees, or that otherwise lock customers into a particular plan or term will be disallowed.

**E – Speed Additive – Up to 10 points available**

- Additional points will be awarded if applicant/carrier partner includes evidence that they plan to offer speeds in excess of the 100/100 Mbps minimum. These additional speed tiers must be available to customers at the time of application, and offerings have to meet both the upload and download speed minimums to be awarded points. Points will be awarded as follows:
  - o 100/100 Mbps only – 0 points
  - o 500/500 Mbps – 5 points
  - o 1 Gbps/1Gbps – 10 points

**F – Match Source – Up to 10 points available**

- Sources of match that are outside of existing federal or state broadband programs will be given additional points, as outlined here:
  - o NUSF High Cost – 0 points
  - o Federal Broadband Funds match – 5 points
  - o Applicant and/or carrier outside funds – 10 points

**G – Match Percentage – Up to 30 points available**

- a. Additional weight will be given to applications that make up more than the 50% requirement for matching funds. If the applicant has sources of funds that make up more than the 50% requirement, one point will be awarded for each additional percentage point above 50%, up to a maximum of 30 points (80%).

**H – ETC Certification – Up to 5 points available**

- If the applicant/carrier partner is an ETC at the time of application, 5 points will be awarded.
- If an ETC application is pending, 3 points will be awarded.
- If the applicant/carrier partner plans to file for ETC Certification within 30 days of the application deadline, 1 point will be awarded.
- If the applicant does not fall under an ETC certification category as listed above, 0 points will be awarded.